

Further Reading

SOURCES USED TO COMPILE SCRIPTURES

Rishi Valmiki is traditionally credited with composing the Ramayana, one of the two major Sanskrit epics of ancient Indian literature. The Ramayana is a rich tapestry of mythology, history, philosophy, and poetry. While it's not definitively clear which specific sources Valmiki might have drawn upon to compile the Ramayana, there are several elements that may have influenced his work:

Oral Tradition: Like many ancient texts, the stories and events in the Ramayana may have been passed down through generations via oral tradition. These oral narratives would have been a primary source of inspiration and material for Valmiki.

Contemporary Events and Figures: It's possible that Valmiki may have incorporated elements from contemporary historical events, figures, and socio-political contexts into the Ramayana, blending myth and history.

Cultural and Religious Narratives: The epic is steeped in the spiritual and cultural traditions of ancient India. Valmiki likely drew upon existing cultural narratives, religious practices, and philosophical ideas.

Personal Experiences and Observations: As a sage, Valmiki's own experiences, observations of the natural and social world, and reflections on human nature could have informed the themes and characterizations in the Ramayana.